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SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FISCAL YEAR 1963

PLANT QUARANTINE DIVISION

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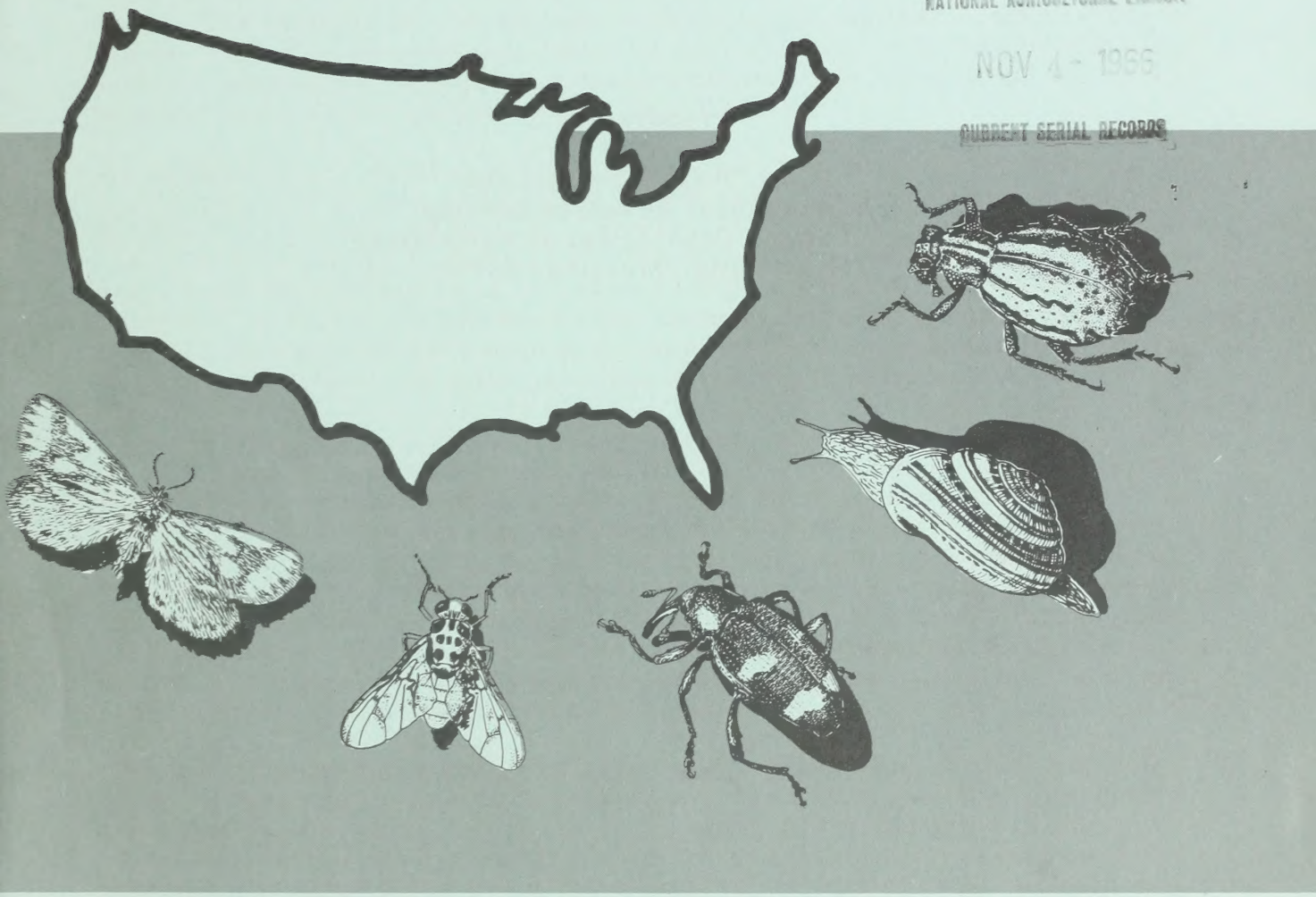

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SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES, FISCAL YEAR 1963
PLANT QUARANTINE DIVISION

Injurious insects, plant disease organisms, and other agricultural pests cost the people of the United States billions of dollars each year in direct losses to crops and in necessary control and eradication measures. Most of this expense is chargeable to pests that gained entry through foreign commerce and travel prior to the enactment of legislation designed to protect against further damage to the Nation's food and fiber crops. Without a continued strong inspection and quarantine program many thousands of additional plant pests could become established and result in enormous losses to the agricultural economy of the Nation. It is the responsibility of the Plant Quarantine Division to prevent the entry into the United States of such foreign pests. The Division is also charged with the responsibility of preventing the spread of pests from offshore areas of the United States to the mainland, and between such areas. It shares in the responsibility for preventing the spread of plant pests within the continental United States.

An additional important responsibility of the Division is the inspection and certification of domestically grown plants and plant products to meet the import requirements of foreign countries. Although in a somewhat different category than plant quarantine restrictions on imports, export certification helps to strengthen the international fight against dissemination of plant pests and so indirectly reinforces our national defense against foreign pests. It also bolsters the agricultural economy of the United States by enhancing the acceptability of our farm products in the world markets.

To meet its responsibilities, the Division maintains inspection staffs at some 73 major ocean, Great Lakes, air, and border ports of entry in the continental United States and in Hawaii, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the American Virgin Islands. In addition, services are provided on a regular or on-call basis at approximately 284 outlying ports and military installations throughout the United States. Plant quarantine inspectors at these ports, working in cooperation with Customs, examine ships, airplanes, vehicles, trains, baggage, and mail to enforce applicable quarantine regulations. They also inspect cargoes of restricted plant materials and non-restricted general cargoes, and apply treatments or other safeguards as necessary.

The task of defending our agricultural resources against foreign plant pests grows larger and more difficult each year. The steady growth of international travel, the continuing acceleration in transportation concepts, and the opening of many interior traffic centers for entry of travelers and agricultural materials bring the potential for introduction of foreign plant pests significantly close to the Nation's agricultural heartland.

The danger that injurious foreign insects, plant diseases, and other plant pests will gain entry into the United States is related directly to the volume of international travel and commerce. The number of foreign arrivals and

travelers and the volume of goods entering the country continue to increase steadily each year, and are factors that establish the level of plant quarantine services necessary to prevent pest introduction.

The number of people entering the country during FY 1963 is estimated at 175 million, 15 million more than in FY 1962. To transport these additional persons, 8 thousand additional aircraft entered and 1.2 million additional vehicles crossed the Mexican Border. Travelers brought with them 4.4 million additional pieces of baggage for inspection at ports of entry - an increase of approximately 19 percent over the preceding year.

Jet Cargo

Entry of agricultural cargo by air is increasing at a very rapid rate. International aircarriers now are using all-cargo jet planes capable of carrying a 40-ton payload. This method of transportation is ideal for shipment of perishable agricultural products subject to plant quarantine examination as a condition of entry. As air cargo operations continue to grow, increased staffing at airports will be necessary to provide adequate plant quarantine coverage with a minimum of delay to international commerce.

Mediterranean Fruitfly Threat in Central America

The recent northward spread of the Mediterranean fruitfly in Nicaragua coupled with increased traffic on the Inter-American highway points out the need to strengthen inspection at Mexican border ports of entry. Should the fruitfly become established in Mexico and continue its northward movement, the danger to the southern fruit growing areas of the United States will be greatly magnified.

Military Movements

Movement of military personnel, baggage, and cargo from foreign bases by air direct to inland areas of the United States is complicating the maintenance of adequate plant quarantine inspection. These arrivals are steadily increasing and have added to the workload of inspectors stationed at regular ports of entry which in some cases may be several hundred miles distant.

Certification of Export Commodities

Direct foreign shipments of grain and grain products, such as flour, from Great Lakes ports is increasing rapidly as more shipping becomes available for Great Lakes navigation, harbors are deepened and facilities such as docks, warehouses, and loading facilities are constructed. Similar expansion of loading facilities is being carried out at many other ports along the Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf Coasts, particularly for grain, which is now being shipped in much greater quantities to many more foreign countries. Changes are being made constantly by foreign governments in their import certification requirements. This may require inspection for additional insects and plant diseases and inspection of additional commodities. For the country as a whole, export certificates issued in 1963 totaled 44,063 covering 74,760,352 containers, an increase of 13 percent in number of certificates issued and 78 percent in containers certified.

The interceptions of insects, plant diseases, snails, nematodes, and mites in 1963 included many of the world's most destructive plant pests. Some of the more significant pests and the number of times intercepted were:

PEST	NUMBER OF INTERCEPTIONS FY 1963	Average Per Year 1960-1962
Fruitflies:		
Mediterranean	293	168
Mexican	399	132
Oriental	33	17
Olive	79	50
European Cherry	185	39
Citrus canker	377	179
Golden nematode	32	43
Khapra beetle	225	179
Sweet orange scab	209	158
Japanese citrus scale	427	375

Agricultural Quarantine Information Distributed for Travelers

Efforts to reduce the danger of the accidental introduction of agricultural pests and diseases in fruits, plants, or meats carried by travelers were expanded during the past year. Notices are being distributed in this country aboard ships and abroad by steamship companies and the Passport Division, Department of State.

The notices distributed outside the United States are in five foreign languages. A brief notice in Spanish and English was prepared for distribution throughout Mexico and Central America by the Governments of those countries as an aid in preventing the movement of plant pests between countries within North America, thus extending our line of defense farther from our actual land borders.

The Armed Forces are cooperating by distributing notices of military regulations that support agricultural quarantine laws. These notices are given to persons traveling on military planes and ships. In addition, a motion picture is currently being prepared for use by the military services showing how plant pests such as snails may "hitchhike" on military equipment being transported into this country and pointing out the significance and importance of preventing such accidental introductions of damaging plant pests.

TABLE 1.--AIRPLANE INSPECTION ACTIVITIES, FISCAL YEAR 1963

Origin	Airplanes				
	Number Inspected	Number With Prohibited Material	Number of Passengers Processed	Pieces of Baggage	Pieces of Cargo
Foreign.....	115,016	49,228	3,828,783	10,366,364	409,235
Domestic 1/.....	604	65	5,242	10,490	18
Predeparture 2/.....	22,429	5,906	1,252,332	3,214,688	387,376
Other.....	7,552	695	70,810	194,447	3,038
Total	145,601	55,894	5,157,167	13,785,989	799,667
Australia and New Zealand 3/.....	669	147	40,886	102,202	161

1/ Planes originating in Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands and landing on the mainland.

2/ Planes inspected in Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Bahama Islands, and Bermuda prior to departure for the mainland of the United States.

3/ Predeparture inspection services performed in Hawaii under the provisions of a cooperative agreement prior to departure to Australia and New Zealand.

TABLE 2.--SHIP INSPECTION ACTIVITIES, FISCAL YEAR 1963

Origin	Ships			
	Number Inspected	Number With Prohibited Material	Number of Passengers Processed	Pieces of Baggage Inspected
Foreign.....	57,793	25,149	1,108,395	3,339,693
Domestic 1/.....	1,763	404	45,246	195,996
Total.....	59,556	25,553	1,153,641	3,535,689

1/Ships originating in Hawaii and Puerto Rico and docking at mainland ports.

TABLE 3.--MEXICAN BORDER INSPECTION ACTIVITIES, FISCAL YEAR 1963

Number of Vehicles Entering	Number of Coaches and Pullmans	Number of Braceros 1/	Pieces of Baggage	Freight Cars, Number of		
				Inspected	Fumigated	Cleaned
25,962,219	1,842	197,681	10,611,874	64,329	4	1,681

1/ Mexican agricultural laborers entering United States for seasonal work under contract.

TABLE 4.--FOREIGN MAIL INSPECTION, FISCAL YEAR 1963

Packages Inspected	Number of Plant Quarantine Interest 1/	Packages Released Under Permit	Packages Refused Entry
43,910,990	243,695	15,293	1,288

1/ Restricted articles, such as plants, plant products, plant pests, and soils.

TABLE 5.--TRANSIT INSPECTION, FISCAL YEAR 1963 1/

Number of Shipments Inspected	Number of Federal Violations Reported	Number of Shipments Reported to States
417,640	775	164

1/ The interestate movement of plants, plant products, and other regulated articles.

TABLE 6.--CARGO INSPECTION, FISCAL YEAR 1963

Number of Entries Under Permit	Number of Man Hours Miscellaneous Inspection	Number of Packages Treated or Cleaned 2/	Export Certification Inspection	
			Number of Export Certificates Issued	Number of Containers Shipped
75,064	51,583	3,988,784	44,063	74,760,352

1/ Inspection of non-regulated cargo shipments for pest risks.

2/ This does not represent products treated aboard ship while en route to the United States.

TABLE 7.--NUMBER OF QUARANTINE MATERIAL INTERCEPTIONS, FISCAL YEAR 1963 1/

In Baggage	In Cargo	In Mail	In Quarters	In Stores	Total
198,137	3,380	2,275	36,073	155,050	394,915

1/ Plants, plant products, and other regulated articles refused entry.

TABLE 8.--NUMBER OF PLANT PEST INTERCEPTIONS, FISCAL YEAR 1963

Kind	Consumption 1/	Non-Entry 2/	Propagation 3/	Miscellaneous 4/	Local 5/	Total
Insects.....	12,057	5,729	4,329	518	2,392	25,025
Diseases 6/....	1,842	3,353	1,057	131	556	6,939
Other.....	1,006	432	776	209	150	2,573
Total.....	14,905	9,514	6,162	858	3,098	34,537

1/ Pests found on material of foreign origin which is to be used for food, processing or manufacturing.
2/ Pests infesting or infecting material found in ship and plane stores.
3/ Pests found in material entering for propagation.
4/ Pests found in transit inspection and export certification.
5/ Pests found in surveys in vicinity of ports of entry.
6/ Diseases includes nematodes.

TABLE 9.--INSPECTION ACTIVITIES CONFINED TO HAWAII, PUERTO RICO, AND VIRGIN ISLANDS, FISCAL YEAR 1963

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Item	Certified		Uncertified		Entered
	Inspection Basis	Treatment Basis	Passed	Refused	From British Virgin Islands into Virgin Islands of the U.S.
Shipments.....Number	2,539	1,961	5,115	3	1,028
Containers....Number	473,809	358,777	790,498	710	5,379
Pounds 1/.....Number	10	0	118,120	0	270,760

DOMESTIC MAIL PACKAGES AND OTHER INSPECTION

Domestic Mail Packages				Number of Pieces of Hold Baggage	Number of Automobiles	Number of Shipment of Cut Flowers and Leis	Number of Express Packages
Total Number Handled	Number Opened	Number Certified	Number Refused				
1,320,577	249,004	1,927	454	22,725	5,962	587,588	9,408

1/ Represents bulb shipments only of certified and uncertified material and all shipments from British Virgin Islands to the Virgin Islands of the U.S.

TABLE 10.--INSPECTION OF PLANT MATERIALS IN EUROPE, FISCAL YEAR 1963 1/

Name of Country	Number of Bulb Shipments	Number of Bulbs	Pounds of Grapes	Pounds of Witloof or Chicory
Belgium.....	397	11,608,527	8,948	1,289,983
France.....	43	1,301,059	0	0
Germany.....	16	1,572,700	0	0
Italy.....	12	618,983	0	0
Netherlands.....	3,764	357,307,131	0	0
Total.....	4,232	372,408,400	8,948	1,289,983

1/ Preshipment inspection and clearance of plant material in countries of origin performed under cooperative agreements.

TABLE 11.--ACTIVITIES PERFORMED AT SPECIAL INSPECTION STATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 1963

DEPARTMENTAL PROPAGATIVE MATERIAL IMPORTATIONS 1/

Item	Entered	Postentry Quarantine 2/	Treated	Refused Entry
Shipments.....Number...	803	158	459	1
Plant Units.....Number...	9,161	4,185	4,757	213
Seeds.....Pounds...	10,690	45	10,361	0
OTHER PROPAGATIVE MATERIAL IMPORTATIONS				
Shipments.....Number...	6,236	577	4,659	244
Plant Units....Number...	7,205,239	828,481	3,506,808	16,002
Seeds.....Pounds...	82,998	0	63,983	507
DEPARTMENTAL NON-PROPAGATIVE MATERIAL				
Number of Lots Treated.....	1,488			

1/ Regulated material imported and grown under United States Department of Agriculture sponsorship.
2/ Materials to be grown under conditions of quarantine isolation for a period of time after importation under continued PQ-State surveillance.

TABLE 11.--ACTIVITIES PERFORMED AT SPECIAL INSPECTION STATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 1963--Continued.

DEPARTMENTALLY GROWN MATERIAL

Item		Shipments	
		Domestic	Foreign
Inspected	Number	2,509	2,353
Units	Number	170,628	7,506
Seeds	Pounds	5,731	1,526
Treated	Number	553	227

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA REGULATIONS

Item		Shipments	
		Entering D.C.	Leaving D.C.
Inspected	Number	1,484	2,469
Treated	Number	-0-	119
D. C. Violation	Number	-0-	-0-

TABLE 12.--POUNDS OF FRUIT TREATED IN MEXICO, FISCAL YEAR 1963 1/

Mangos	Oranges	Tangerines	Grapefruit
725,986	62,248,040	10,884,960	1,955,040

1/ Fruit treated under supervision of plant quarantine inspectors to permit shipment into the U.S.

TABLE 13.--COMPARATIVE SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES (1958 - 1963)

Item (Number of)	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Airplanes:						
Inspected.....	120,741	133,723	139,415	130,497	137,293	145,601
With Prohibited Material.....	43,208	46,868	47,741	46,782	50,819	55,894
Passengers.....	3,666,355	3,764,816	4,277,463	4,440,718	4,619,836	5,157,167
Baggage Inspected.....	8,781,520	9,733,480	10,776,357	11,588,758	12,295,810	13,785,989
Cargo Inspected.....	786,381	932,091	831,146	658,661	848,082	799,667
Hawaii to Aust. and N.Z.....	490	550	453	617	668	669
Ships:						
Inspected.....	55,348	58,995	60,394	57,049	59,952	59,556
With Prohibited Material.....	17,892	22,169	22,386	23,832	24,688	25,553
Passengers Processed.....	1,007,248	1,105,225	1,092,416	1,074,968	1,087,876	1,153,641
Baggage Inspected.....	3,098,998	3,486,640	3,988,338	3,613,279	3,351,644	3,535,689
Mexican Border Traffic Insp:						
Vehicles Entering.....	19,434,535	21,119,747	22,656,765	24,249,712	24,752,505	25,962,219
Coaches and Pullmans Entering..	1,488	947	1,238	1,323	1,550	1,842
Baggage Inspected.....	5,387,531	8,111,060	7,260,498	7,435,053	7,866,379	10,611,874
Freight Cars Entering 1/.....	89,055	70,479	66,510	62,845	62,271	64,329
Freight Cars Fumigated.....	56	20	3	1	3	4
Mail Inspection:						
Packages.....	35,930,743	37,391,885	37,903,668	37,787,959	39,901,732	43,910,990
Packages Released Under Permit.	7,389	16,011	16,097	17,235	14,520	15,293
Packages Refused Under Entry...	2,029	1,464	1,274	1,092	1,145	1,288

TABLE 13.--COMPARATIVE SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES (1958 - 1963)--Continued

Item	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Transit Inspection:						
Shipments Inspected.....	805,783	729,174	719,077	600,740	448,234	417,640
Federal Violations Reported.....	330	327	204	307	252	775
Shipments Reported States.....	643	396	638	236	136	164
Cargo Inspection:						
Entries of Material under Permit.	68,647	79,731	82,815	74,212	76,656	75,064
Man Hours Misc. Inspection.....	30,414	37,209	44,630	51,298	47,545	51,583
Packages Cleaned and Treated.....	1,326,189	1,614,016	1,831,688	2,606,957	2,742,021	3,988,784
Export Certificates Issued.....	50,072	36,372	34,715	36,226	38,954	44,063
Quarantine Material Interceptions.	311,391	319,713	314,367	323,603	384,656	394,915
Plant Pest Interceptions 2/.....	18,198	25,296	30,230	25,575	33,033	31,439
Shipments Ctfd. for Entry on the.. Mainland.....	14,809	4,045	4,093	3,450	2,494	2,539
Shipments Ctfd. for Entry on the Mainland after Treatment.....	2,438	1,354	1,110	954	1,216	1,961
Animal Quarantine Activities:						
Interceptions.....	-	-	-	43,910	74,991	71,962
Pounds.....	-	-	-	497,961	2,779,096	2,747,302

1/ Does not include oil tank cars.

2/ Does not include local pest interceptions.